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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 023971-0371

In re patent application of

Junpei OGAWA et al.

Serial No.: 10/771,522

Group Art Unit: 3682

Filed: February 5, 2004

Examiner: V. Loung

For: HIGH-STRENGTH CONNECTING ROD AND METHOD OF PRODUCING
SAME

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 6, 2005, Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I, claims 1-8 and 19-25, for prosecution in the subject application.

Further, in reply to the Election of Species Requirement, Applicants hereby elect the species of Figs. 20-23. Claims 1-4, 9-12 and 19-28 are readable thereon.

Applicant, of course, reserves the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of the non-elected claim.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 7, 2005

By

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